

## **Roach Control Protocol Checklist**

July 20, 1998 (8/21/1998)  
(major messages in bold)



### Visit One

#### **EDUCATION**

- ☐ Cockroaches can make asthma worse. Substances found in the roaches' feces, saliva, eggs and shed cuticles can set off allergies and asthma. We'll talk more about this at our next visit.
- ☐ What we want to do is help you figure out if there are roaches in the home and then help you get rid of them. Many homes have roaches, no matter how clean they seem.
- ☐ The first step in seeing if there are roaches is placing traps to attract and catch them. We'd like to do this with you at the next visit.
- ☐ In preparation for placing the roach traps during visit two, ask the client to have the refrigerator and stove moved away from the wall so that there is enough space to place a roach trap behind them. If they can't do this, CHES will help do this during second visit.

### Visit Two

#### **ASSESSMENT**

- ☐ Ask if client has observed any roach activity.
- ☐ Observe if any roach activity is present.
- ☐ Place roach traps:
  - Set out MaxForce<sup>®</sup> traps. Traps must be placed against a wall and preferably in a corner. Locate near food or water sources. Place six traps, as follows:
    - 1) kitchen: under sink
    - 2) kitchen: behind refrigerator
    - 3) kitchen: behind stove
    - 4) kitchen: in back of lower cabinet
    - 5) bathroom (if more than one, the one used most often by child): under sink
    - 6) child's bedroom
  - Additional traps (up to four) should be placed in rooms where roach activity has been observed.
  - Indicate the exact location of the traps on the diagram of the rooms (see attached), so that if repeat trapping is necessary, the traps can be placed in the same location. Number each trap and then write the number on the appropriate place in the diagram.
  - Tell residents NOT to move traps!

## **EDUCATION**

- ☐ Cockroaches can make asthma worse. Substances found in the roaches' feces, saliva, eggs and shed cuticles can set off allergies and asthma.
- ☐ Eliminating roaches from the home can help control asthma, especially if your child is allergic to cockroaches. (If child's skin test for roaches was positive, add: Your child's skin test showed that s/he is allergic to roaches. This makes it even more important to see if there are any roaches in your home.)
- ☐ Cockroaches are common indoor pests found in all types of homes.
- ☐ Household members can take effective measures to reduce or totally eliminate cockroaches from a home.

## **SUPPLIES**

- ☐ Roach traps

## **REFERRALS**

- ☐ None

# Visit Three

## **ASSESSMENT**

- ☐ Ask if client has observed any roach activity.
- ☐ Observe if any roach activity is present.
- ☐ Collect roach traps and record on diagram number of roaches in each trap.
- ☐ If client reports roaches, if CHES observes roaches or if traps contain any roaches, the CHES will proceed with the roach eradication protocol at visit four. This visit can be done ahead of schedule if household is eager to get started on roach elimination. If there is no evidence of cockroaches, tell clients they currently have no roach problem and that at the next visit, they will be given information about how to avoid future roach problems.

## **EDUCATION**

If roaches are present, CHES will ask the household to prepare for visit four (during which CHES will help household with roach eradication protocol) by:

- ☐ Moving the stove and refrigerator away from the wall.
- ☐ Emptying food cabinets.
- ☐ Vacuuming up any visible roaches just before the visit. Cockroaches can be vacuumed with the crevice attachment. Try to remove all traces of the roaches (including the eggs if possible). If feasible, shine a flashlight into any cracks to get the

roaches to come out. After vacuuming, remove the vacuum bag, seal it, and discard in trash. Continue to vacuum or otherwise kill any roaches that are seen.

## Visit Four: Households without roach activity

### **ASSESSMENT**

- ☐ None

### **EDUCATION**

- ☐ Cockroaches can make asthma worse. Substances found in the roaches' feces, saliva, eggs and shed cuticles can set off allergies and asthma.
- ☐ Cockroaches are common indoor pests found in all types of homes.
- ☐ Controlling cockroaches is difficult, so it is a good idea to take measures to prevent them from becoming a problem.
- ☐ Cockroaches can go for months without food but only about 24 hours without water. Thus removing sources of water in the home is very important. Making food inaccessible to roaches is also important.
- ☐ The following actions can help prevent a roach problem from developing :
  - Store food in sealed containers.
  - Keep garbage in closed containers.
  - Clean dishes up after use or place them in soapy water.
  - Remove food that spills on the dining area floor or table or kitchen floor or counters immediately.
  - Clean up food crumbs or spills in other rooms (e.g. family room or around television) and try to avoid bringing food into these rooms.
  - Remove roach hiding places (such as empty boxes, cans, bottles, bags, newspapers).
  - Repair leaky faucets and pipes.
  - Seal cracks in the walls.

### **SUPPLIES**

- ☐ None

### **REFERRALS**

- ☐ None

## Visit Four: houses with roach activity

### ASSESSMENT

- ☐ None

### EDUCATION

- ☐ Cockroaches can make asthma worse. Substances found in the roaches' feces, saliva, eggs and shed cuticles can set off allergies and asthma.
- ☐ Cockroaches are common indoor pests found in all types of homes.
- ☐ Controlling cockroaches is difficult, so it is a good idea to take measures to prevent them from becoming a problem.
- ☐ Cockroaches can go for months without food but only about 24 hours without water. Thus removing sources of water in the home is very important. Making food inaccessible to roaches is also important.
- ☐ Roaches are most often seen in places where they can access food and water, such as the kitchen. They travel close to walls and corners (so placing traps near walls is important). They live in cracks in the walls, inside walls and in other dark places.
- ☐ They tend to group together and are often found near sources of food and water, such as refrigerators, stoves and garbage containers.
- ☐ They prefer dark, warm, moist locations, and high humidity promotes growth.
- ☐ Household members can take effective measures to reduce or totally eliminate cockroaches from a home.
- ☐ The following actions can eliminate a roach problem :
  - Store food in sealed containers.
  - Keep garbage in closed containers.
  - Clean dishes up after use or place them in soapy water.
  - Remove food that spills on the dining area floor or table or kitchen floor or counters immediately.
  - Clean up food crumbs or spills in other rooms (e.g. family room or around television) and try to avoid bringing food into these rooms.
  - Remove roach hiding places (such as empty boxes, cans, bottles, bags, newspapers)
  - Repair leaky faucets and pipes.
  - Seal cracks in the walls.
- ☐ Try to eliminate all sources of food and water for the roaches so they will be more easily attracted to the bait (see #4, below).

### ROACH ERADICATION ACTIVITIES

Refer SHA tenants to Bill Peterson. For others, use the following protocol:

- ☐ **Identify leaky pipes** and fixtures and suggest that the participants repair them or ask their landlord to do so.
- ☐ **Seal cracks.** Apply gel bait inside the cracks. Then use a caulking agent to seal up these cracks. Do the kitchen as the top priority, followed by bathroom and laundry area (these are areas with water, and attract thirsty roaches).

- ☐ **Roach baits.** Roach bait attracts the roaches and then the insecticide in it kills them. Roaches die about 1-3 days after eating the bait and it usually takes 7-10 days to see reduced numbers of roaches after setting the baits. Apply abamectin beads as follows:

1. two under kitchen sink
2. two behind stove
3. two behind refrigerator
4. two in upper kitchen cabinets
5. two in lower kitchen cabinets
6. one in cabinet above refrigerator
7. one in bathroom (behind toilet)
8. additional beads (2 per room) in other rooms in which activity has been observed or roaches trapped

Place bait near food and water sources, but not in places it will get wet. Keep it out of reach of children and pets. Tell residents NOT to move baits.

#### **SUPPLIES**

- ☐ Boric acid
- ☐ Avert
- ☐ Caulk & caulk gun

### **Visit Five: Follow-up for homes with roaches**

After 6-8 weeks, repeat the assessment of roach activity by placing roach traps. If roaches are detected, review food handling, check to see if all cracks are caulked, check for leaky pipes and fixtures, and replace bait beads with new ones. *If no roaches are detected, a thorough cleaning of the house, with priority on the areas in which roaches were active, is VERY important.* This cleaning will remove the allergens contained from the dead roaches and from the remaining eggs, saliva and feces.

## ROACH TRAP LOCATION DIAGRAM

1. For each room, indicate location of windows, doors and major appliances/pieces of furniture.
2. Label each diagram with the name of the room.
3. Mark location of each trap on appropriate diagram.
4. When collecting traps, indicate number of roaches in each on diagram (0, 1, 2, 3, ...)

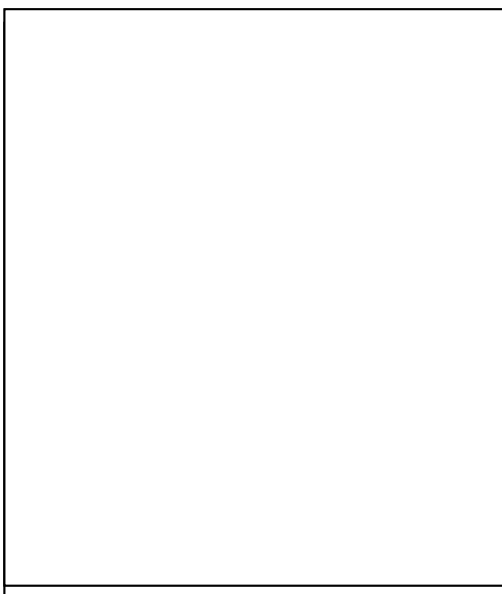
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